

## **Minutes of the Combined Health and Human Services Committee/Board Meeting**

**Thursday, October 28, 2004**

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisors Duane Stamsta (Chair), Joe Griffin, Andy Kallin, Bill Kramer, Jim Jeskewitz, Sandy Wolff, Hank Carlson

**Board Members Present:** Citizen Members Dennis Farrell (Chair), Dick Wutt, Dr. John Guy, JoAnn Weidmann, Mike O'Brien and Supervisors Duane Paulson, Vera Stroud, Joe Griffin, Duane Stamsta **Absent:** Supervisor Mareth Kipp

**Also Present:** Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Director Health & Human Services Peter Schuler, Deputy Director Health & Human Services Don Maurer, Long Term Care Division Manager Jack Bodien, Administrative Services Division Manager Russ Kutz, Children and Family Services Division Manager Jesús Mireles, Intake and Support Services Division Manager Antwayne Robertson, Public Health Manager Nancy Healy Haney and Alternate Care Unit Supervisor Don Daniels

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

### **COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Approve Minutes of September 30, October 7, and October 8, 2004**

**MOTION:** Jeskewitz made a motion seconded by Kallin to approve the minutes of September 30, 2004. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Kallin made a motion seconded by Kramer to approve the minutes of October 7, 2004. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Jeskewitz made a motion seconded by Carlson to approve the minutes of October 8, 2004. Motion carried.

#### **Announcements**

Stamsta announced that the Committee meeting scheduled for November 11, 2004 will be a joint meeting of the Committee and Board and the Board's meeting of November 18, 2004 is cancelled.

#### **Executive Committee Report**

Stamsta announced that the Executive Committee approved the ordinance to modify the capital project to include replacing the Human Services Building Air Handling Unit. He also stated that the Committee discussed the possibility of a new building within the next ten years to house Health & Human Services as well as Public Health.

### **BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Approve Minutes of September 30, 2004**

**MOTION:** Wutt made a motion seconded by Paulson to approve the minutes of September 30, 2004. Motion carried.

### **Announcements**

Wutt announced that Peter Woboril, a former board member, passed away. The funeral will be held on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 until 12:00 Noon.

Weidmann announced that she has asked to be involved in future steering committee meetings of the WCA to discuss the governor's initiatives regarding a Public Health Institute.

Farrell announced that STEPPN is meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Brookfield Room.

### **Advisory Committee Reports**

Farrell stated that DDAC and CAFSAC have been informed about the budget and are starting to work on goals and objectives for the 2006 budget.

## **COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Update on 211**

Don Maurer provided a brief history of 211 and stated that the 30-month pilot expired sometime last spring. Waukesha County had a 24-hour help line through the Mental Health Association before 211 came into existence. Whereas the impact for Waukesha County was not severe, it was more significant for Milwaukee County because they had no comprehensive 24 hour help line prior to 211. There was some funding from United Way to enhance our program. Due to budget constraints, we were unable to provide the Mental Health Association with additional funding in 2006 but they are still going forward with operating the program. They are certified and credentialed to handle suicide calls. According to Antwayne Robertson we had a total of 20,790 calls in 2003 under the four categories: crisis/suicide, information, supportive, and referral. From January through September of 2004 the number of calls totaled 16,635 of which 553 were crisis/suicide calls.

Esler asked how many counties are using this or are planning on doing so. Maurer stated this is an issue in itself because the state never provided any funding, but expressed a strong interest in 211 expansion following the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks. At this time, new 211 operations are being approved throughout the states. Maurer stated that some counties are using 211, and others have requested it. Workers who answer the 211 calls have been given additional training, but many are volunteers. There are some paid staff.

### **Bioterrorism Consortium – Report on Advantages**

Nancy Healy Haney gave an update on the Milwaukee-Waukesha Consortium and handed out a document regarding her report. Public Health has had numerous infrastructure updates which has enhanced their ability to respond to an emergency. Healy Haney went over the infrastructure list and the outcomes that were included in the document. She explained what the Strategic National Stockpile (one in Milwaukee) as well as other parts of the United States where local health departments can have quick access to needed vaccines, etc. When asked about the shelf life of vaccines for anthrax or smallpox, she stated that they are good for well over 30 years or more. Weidmann asked about the ease in getting items from the SNS to which Schuler stated that this is a well-planned out procedure and police and sheriff would also be escorting the transporters along the way to safeguard the product. We have been asked to supply a second site

(the Expo Center is our primary site) which we are presently working on securing. Kallin asked about the vulnerability of Waukesha County – a study was done and there are areas such as large gathering places, telecommunication plants, etc. The study was done by Jim Malueg under the auspices of the Department of Justice was a 7 month project. Esler asked Healy Haney if some of her time has dropped off now that there is a consortium in place, to which she answered that even though there has been a lot of cooperation between all parties, her work and staff work has not decreased. Her management staff are involved in the telecommunications committee and SNS planning. She has hired a contractual person who is handling some of the workload. Schuler stated that honestly the answer to that question is NO – there is no additional staffing money and the funding mechanisms are not sufficient.

### **JOINT COMMITTEE/BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Pertussis Update**

Healy Haney handed out a document giving an up to date report on the Pertussis outbreak. She stated that last year we had 13 confirmed/probable cases of Pertussis in Waukesha County and this year so far we have 347. The Incident Command System has been up and running for 22 weeks. This requires daily morning staff reports on cases followed up, new cases reported, line list maintenance, staff and issue resolution, staffing issues, and addressing significant problems. Thousands of letters have gone out to schools, day care centers, etc. regarding Pertussis exposure. Healy Haney stated there are two cycles – our summer peak was in August and the next peak is November so it is not dropping off. The majority of cases are children between 12 and 14 years of age who have not been immunized in years. There is also a high rate of children under the age of one. Adults are also very vulnerable since most have not been immunized since childhood. This extended state of readiness has posed a significant challenge to fulfilling routine responsibilities, as numerous staff had to be redeployed to Pertussis response.

#### **Flu Immunization Update**

Healy Haney handed out a document on flu vaccine, a copy of an emergency order from Helene Nelson, DHFS Secretary, and a copy of the Wisconsin Revised Influenza Vaccination Prioritization Plan. She went over the facts in the document on flu vaccine. The reason for the shortage is that the United Kingdom suspended the Chiron Corporation manufacturing license because 50 million doses of vaccine were contaminated. Healy Haney stated that a number of companies don't want to develop the flu vaccine because of lawsuits, cost, and limited profit potential. The emergency order from the State, which followed the CDC order, gave a list of criteria that must be met before an individual can receive a flu immunization. The Public Health Division has had to turn down a number of children and adults because they did not meet the criteria. At the national level there seems to be a struggle as to determine whether we have enough to immunize those people who meet the criteria. The Division will not be administering flu shots to any nursing or group homes as they have done in the past because of the shortage, however, they have given 33 doses to vulnerable homebound individuals to date. Healy Haney stated that the Public Health Division will be holding its flu clinic on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Expo Center and this will be for high-risk children, adults, and senior citizens.

#### **Alternate Care/Independent Living**

Two documents were handed out regarding the Independent Living Program. Don Daniels went over the handout titled "Independent Living Presentation" and explained the criteria needed to

qualify for this program. A study done by UW Madison professor, Mark Courtney, found that nationally, many youth who “age out” of the system without further support ended in jail, in homeless shelters, battered women shelters and/or mental health facilities. As a result the Chafee Act was passed by Congress so as to improve the safety net for these youth in hopes of raising their success rate in transitioning to young adulthood.

Daniels passed around examples of completed independent living assessments and plans that are used during the time the client is in the program. The assessment, when completed online, creates a bar graph that compares a youth’s perception of their readiness in specific areas of independent living skill development with the perception of him/her by his/her caregiver. The graph draws attention to areas of agreement and disparity, and helps in the creation of the youth’s independent living skill development plan. A letter is also sent to the parent(s) seeking their input in the development of that plan.

Daniels stated that Waukesha County, through discussions with the Housing Authority, has been able to obtain vouchers for rent assistance for this clientele. Youth are required to pay 30% of their income toward rent, with the balance being paid by the Housing Authority. These vouchers are available to qualifying youth for up to two years. Additionally, a department social worker must be willing to recommend the youth as a likely to succeed renter, given that a primary goal of the Housing Authority is to maintain good relations with the landlords that make up the backbone of the voucher program. The department also has “Starter Kits that it can make available to youth who are setting up first time apartments. These are comprised of a \$300.00 gift certificate to WalMart. These are to be used only for items needed for the apartment; a social worker accompanies the youth on this shopping trip to make sure that items purchased are consistent with that intent.

Carlson asked how much the county subsidizes the independent living program. Daniels stated that the county’s subsidy is in staff time, not dollars. Lad Lake runs the independent living program for Milwaukee County. With federal dollars provided to us through the State, we are purchasing up to 10 hours per week of the Lad Lake staff person’s time so as to add a level of expertise and connections that will make our program even more successful.

## **COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Ordinance 159-O-072**

A copy of the Ordinance was passed out to all members. The Ordinance is for approval to modify the Long Term Care Fund of the Health & Human Services budget to be modified by increasing general government revenues by \$656,000 and increasing operating expenses by \$656,000 to cover the costs of purchasing community-based care and services which the State’s Medical Assistance Waiver and Community Options are funding. This is a result of the relocation of three clients from Jackson Center and Hearthside. Also the average daily cost of care of the frail elderly has increased 13% above the 2004 budgeted amount. The long term care fund budget also increased by \$25,500 due to the retirement and associated sick leave payout of one employee.

**MOTION:** Kallin made a motion to accept the ordinance seconded by Bill Kramer. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Review Chapter 250 Public Health Statute**

JoAnn Weidman stated that at the last NALBOH (National Association of Local Boards of Health) meeting she attended a breakout session titled: "Is Your Local Board of Health Ready for SARS?". A list of legal issues from that session was handed out to all members along with a copy of Chapter 250 of the Wisconsin State Statutes which covers Health; Administration and Supervision. The statutes cover the roles of the Public Health Manager and Public Health Officer, but do not go into the responsibility of the Health & Human Services Board. JoAnn, speaking on behalf of the board, would like to know their responsibilities. In Chapter 46.23 of the Wis. Statutes, it talks about combined agencies with combined duties. The Board must include a physician and a nursing representative, which are Dr. Guy and JoAnn Weidmann respectively. We have an orientation package that covers each division, but not one specifically for Public Health. Peter Schuler stated that WCHSA has training for board members and a manual, but it doesn't contain a public health section, even though there are about 20 counties that are combined Human Services which includes Public Health.

Dr. Healy Haney gave a brief history of how the board of health was founded. We are complying with the section that covers a separate board of health. There were a number of questions as to the authority of the local board of health in authorizing a quarantine, who is responsible for the housing costs and what happens if a family breadwinner is quarantined and unable to earn a living?

Carlson left at 3:45 p.m.

Schuler stated that we are a level two health department – we have specific requirements to meet and we are reviewed every five years. In 2005 we will have another full review. We will concentrate on the questions JoAnn had put in the paper that was passed around. There is a vast difference between states and the role of Public Health. We do have a Corporation Counsel, so they are called upon for legal advice. JoAnn asked about our role with Environmental Health – she would like Corporation Counsel's explanation of what our role should be. We are charged with the health of the public and there should be some formal method to determine environmental issues as related to human health. Schuler will work with Weidmann to pick out key questions and work on this – especially the emergency areas. Some of these questions can be fed to the County Executive – it is important to know what the State statutes are and what we can do and should do.

JoAnn stated that she is on the WALHDAB Annual Meeting Planning Committee and they would like to establish a track that board members would be interested in. They are planning to establish this track so that board members can attend. If anyone has any ideas of items they would like addressed at the annual meeting, please pass these on to JoAnn.

### **Aging and Disability Resource Center**

Schuler reported that he and Don Maurer along with several of the managers will meet with Cathy Bellovary, Director of Senior Services next week regarding the state memo for developing a Resource Center. Maurer went over the copy of the memo that was handed out to all members. The State sent out an RFP, which was just available two days ago, and they are asking that

intents be filed by November 12 and applications due by mid-January. One of the requirements is that the applicant (county) must have a plan to serve at least elderly people and people with physical or developmental disabilities in the first year and at the completion of the three year implementation period, must also include adults with mental illness and substance abuse needs, elderly with disabilities or chronic health problems, children age 16 and older with disabilities who are transitioning into adult services, healthy elders, and family caregivers. Counties who are selected will receive start-up money totaling \$55,000 to be used for any identified need related to readiness for implementation, preferably a full-time project leader; funding to start a disability benefit specialist program; ongoing funding based on the size of the adult population, etc. These resources are listed on the back of the memo. Several Board and Committee members shared their reservations about such centers if not fully state funded.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Bill Kramer made a motion, seconded by Andy Kallin to adjourn the meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Duane Paulson made a motion, seconded by Vera Stroud to adjourn the meeting of the Health and Human Services Board. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew J. Kallin  
Secretary for the Committee